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He served our nation well

"In the nature of his task, his achievements were known to only a few. But because of him, the world is a safer place today."

Allen W. Dulles, who was director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 1953 to 1961, was the subject of those words by President Nixon in a statement on the death of Mr. Dulles last week at the age of 75.

"THE DEATH of Allen Dulles comes at a time when his qualities of deliberation, integrity and intelligence are more than ever those on which free men must rely," the President said. "He served his country in the great tradition of his family and with unstinting devotion to duty. He was a man who brought civility, intelligence and great dedication to everything he did."

Mr. Dulles was not as widely known as his older brother, John Foster Dulles, who was Secretary of State under President Eisenhower, but that was partly due to "the nature of his task," as President Nixon noted. Both

brothers were brilliant members of a remarkable family, and both had the same dedication to duty and service to their country.

Allen Dulles had an important role in our nation's espionage operations during World War II. He returned to New York to practice law after the war, but soon was helping to draft legislation to set up the Central Intelligence Agency. He was named deputy director of the CIA in 1950, and then director in 1953.

HE WAS DEEPLY concerned about the Communist threat. At one time he said: "I think the one grave peril we face is the Communist peril. That is the only peril to our freedoms, to our institutions, to everything we hold dear."

It is not surprising that Tass, the Soviet press agency, denounced him as "the advocate of unscrupulous ideological and propaganda activity by the United States." Most Americans would regard such denunciation by Tass as a tribute to the effectiveness of Mr. Dulles in his important job for our nation.